

# Production Response of Mung Bean (*Vigna radiata* L.) on the Application of Phosphorus Fertilizer and Oil Palm Bunch Ash

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**Abstract.** Mung bean need phosphate in seed formation and accelerate pod maturity. In acidic soil the P element is difficult to be available because it is bound by metal metals in the soil, it is given a palm bunch ash containing a lot of organic nutrients to release P from the metal and also increase soil pH. The study aims to determine the effect of P fertilization and palm bunch ash on the growth and production of mung bean. The study was conducted on community land in Medan Selayang from October to December 2019. The study used a factorial randomized block design, with 2 factors. The first factor is P fertilizer (0; 37.5; 112.5 kg SP-36/ha). The second factor is oil palm bunch ash consisting of 0; 2; 4 t/ha. The variables observed were a number of pods, weight of 100 seeds, weight of seed per plots, weight of seed per plant. The results showed that the application of P the applications of P fertilizer 112.5 kg SP-36/ha tended to produce the highest pod number and seed weight per plot. The applications of oil palm bunch ash 2 t/ha significantly increased seed weight per plant, seed weight per plot and pod number.

**Keywords:** mung bean, P fertilizer, oil palm bunch ash

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## 1. Introduction

Mung beans are one of legumes as source of vitamins (A, B1 and C), minerals, contains balanced nutrient, including protein, dietary fibers and significant amounts of bioactive compounds. The use of mung beans is very diverse, from simple processed to industrial processed products, food stuff, vegetable, livestock feed and medicine in India, China, Thailand and the Philippines. Besides being used as food, mung beans also have benefits as a cover crop and green manure [1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6].

Mung beans have many health benefits such as hypoglycemic and hypolipidemis effects [7] [8], antihypertensive [9], anticancer [10], hepatoprotective [11] and immunomodulatory properties [12] and anti inflamatory [13]. Grains of mungbean is composed of 49.4% carbohydrates, 25%

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proteins and 2-4% fats, in addition to that they also contain 365 and 134 mg of phosphorous and calcium per hundred grams of grains respectively [14].

Mung beans in Indonesia rank as the third most important legume food crop, after soybeans and peanuts. With this potential green beans can fill protein deficiencies in general, improve nutrition and simultaneously increased farmer income. Mung bean production in Indonesia in 2017 is 241,334 tons, and in 2018 the production of mung bean has decreased to 234,718 tons. Production from 2017 to 2018 decreased by 2.74% [15].

Mung beans have more value than other food crops, namely: (1) through early maturing (55-65 days), (2) more drought tolerant because it has deep roots (tap roots), (3) can be planted in less fertile land and can fertilize the soil, (4) easy cultivation method, and relatively few pests. Because there is more value than mung beans it can be seen as an alternative to be developed in dry land, specifically those that have a low harvest index [16] [17] [18]. Mung bean has high adaptation in environmental stress such as drought phase or poor fertility of soil status, and excellent soil fertility via nitrogen fixation. Therefore, mung beans are the first choice of farmers to cultivate it in different cropping patterns [19] [20] [22] [23].

Phosphorus (P) is among the most needed elements for the legumes production in most tropical soils, which tends to be P deficient [24]. Some studies report that P deficiencies primarily result from other inherent low level of soil P or depletion through cultivation. Phosphorus has a vital role in plant nutrition by enhancing nitrogen absorption, influencing pods and seeds formation in legumes and contributing to plant energy processes [25] [26].

The application of P fertilizer together with ameliorant can reduce the available Al in the soil and soil acidity which causes the availability of P nutrients, P uptake of plants is higher so that the efficiency of P fertilizer increases [27]. Availability of P plays a role in the division of the cell nucleus to form new cells and enlarge the cells so that plant growth and development increases. The application of phosphate fertilizer can increase the photosynthesis process which in turn will also affect the increase in dry weight of plants [28].

The application of P fertilizer had significant effects on yield, pods per plant, and 100-seed weight. P deficiency suppresses growth and lowers yield, whereas, excessive amount of P delays maturation and seed set [29]. Previous researcher has reported that the application of P fertilizer has significant affects the age of harvest, number of pods per plant, number of pods per plot, weight of 100 mung bean seeds and pod weight per plot, but has no significant effect on plant height parameters and number of branches, age of mung beans flowering and pod weight per plant [30]. The application of oil palm long ash 2 tons/ha to mung beans has an influence on plant height, flowering age, harvest age, number of pods per plant, percentage of pods per plant, dry seed weight per plant and weight of 100 seeds [31].

Based on the background, the objective of the research was to evaluate the effect of P fertilization and palm bunch ash on the growth and production of mung bean.

**2. Materials and Methods**

This research was conducted in the field of Selayang sub-district community land, starting in October - December 2019. This study used a factorial randomized block design using two treatment factors, as follows: SP-36 fertilizer with 4 levels, P0: 0 kg SP- 36/ha, P1: 37.5 kg SP-36/ha, P2: 75 kg SP-36/ha, P3: 112.5 kg SP-36/ha. Palm bunch ash with 4 levels namely, K0: 0 tons of oil palm bunch ash/ha, K1: 2 tons of palm bunch ash/ha, K2: 4 tons of palm bunch ash/ha.

The research procedure started from land preparation, plot preparation (1m x 1.4 m), application of palm bunch ash, planting, watering, weeding, application of P fertilizer, pest and disease control and harvesting. Variable observed were total of pods, weight of seed per plant, weight of 100 seeds. Data was analyzed using an analysis of variance and followed by a Duncan's Multiple Range Test with a level of  $\alpha = 5\%$  for the treatment that has a significant effect.

**3. Results and Discussion**

**3.1. Number of Pods**

Table 1 showed that in the treatment of 4 t/ha of oil palm bunch ash produced the highest number of pods, namely 8.49 pods which were significant different from the application of 0 t/ha of palm bunch ash (control), but not significant different from the application of 2 t/ha of palm bunch ash. The treatment of 112.5 kg/ha of P fertilizer tends to have the highest number of pods (7.78 pods). Interactions between P3K2 tend to have more pods than other interactions.

**Table 1.** Effect of P fertilizer and Palm Bunch Ash Applications on Pod Number of Mung Beans

Oil palm bunch ash (t/ha)	P fertilizer (kg SP-36/ha)				Mean
	P0 (0)	P1 (37.5)	P2 (75)	P3 (112.5)	
	.....pod.....				
K0 (0)	6.40	5.20	5.27	5.40	5.57b
K1 (2)	6.07	6.53	5.93	8.15	6.67ab
K2 (4)	9.00	7.17	8.00	9.80	8.49a
Mean	7.16	6.30	6,40	7.78	

Note: The numbers followed by different letters column indicated significantly different based on Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the level of  $\alpha = 5\%$

The results showed that an increase in P application tended to increase the number of pods. This is related to the role of P in the formation of pods as a sink from the resulting photosynthate translocation. Previous researcher stated that plant photosynthesis contributed to much of plant biomass accumulation and is highly sensitive to levels of P fertilization [32] [33]. P is an essential

part of the cellular membrane, nucleic acid and is directly involved in the carbohydrate metabolism cellular and pods formation of legumes [34] [35].

### 3.2. The Weight of Seeds per Plant

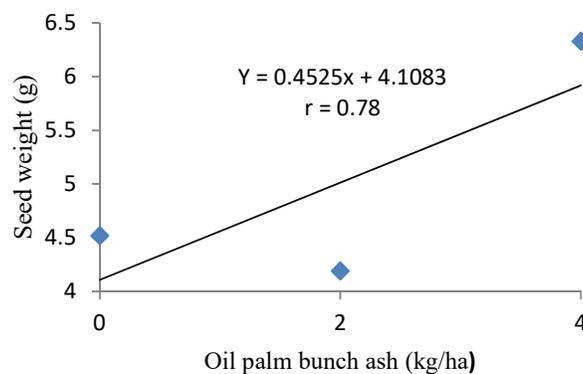
Table 2 showed that in the treatment of 4 t/ha of oil palm bunch ash produced the highest seed weight per plant (6.33 g) which had a significant different effect with the treatment of 0 and 2 t/ha of oil palm bunch ash. The treatment of 112.5 kg SP-36/ha has the highest number of pods (5.17 g).

**Table 2.** Effect of P fertilizer and Palm Bunch Ash Applications on Seed Weight of Mung Beans

Oil palm bunch ash (t/ha)	P fertilizer (kg SP-36/ha)				Mean
	P0 (0)	P1 (37.5)	P2 (75)	P3 (112.5)	
	.....g.....				
K0 (0)	4.94	4.46	4.55	4.15	4.52b
K1 (2)	3.53	4.05	4.84	4.36	4.19b
K2 (4)	6.67	6.08	6.11	6.47	6.33a
Mean	5.05	4.87	5.17	4.99	

Note: The numbers followed by different letters column indicated significantly different based on Duncan's Multiple Range Test at the level of  $\alpha = 5\%$

This is presumably due to the oil palm bunch ash containing potassium nutrients of 139.35 mg/kg [35]. Potassium nutrient is useful in expediting the process of photosynthesis and metabolism. The main role of potassium is as an activator of enzymes and the formation of carbohydrates needed in the reproductive phase of plants to produce better quality flowers and fruit, because the formation of sugar will be more perfect. Previous researchers [36] stated that K in plants functions to accelerate the growth of meristematic tissue and nutrient balance in the soil is an important factor for the smooth metabolism which is closely related to plant growth and production produced.



**Figure 1.** Relationship between Weight of seed/Plant and Dose of Palm Bunch Ash

The relationship of seed weight per plant with the treatment of palm bunch ash can be seen in the Fig. 1, that showed a positive linear relationship between seed weight per plant and palm oil ash yield, with the equation  $Y = 0.4525x + 4.1083$  ( $r = 0.78$ ), that the number of pods increases with increasing palm bunch ash.

### 3.3. Weight of Seeds Per Plot

The results showed that the treatment of P fertilizer, the treatment of palm bunch ash, the interaction between the treatment of P fertilizer and palm bunch ash did not significant affect the weight of seeds per plot (Table 3). The P<sub>3</sub>K<sub>2</sub> treatment produced the highest weight seed/plot (104.24 g/plot). The results is assumed that the available and given P nutrients are bound by the metal elements Al and Fe in the soil. This is in accordance with Mitran et al. [38]. The most reported nutrient problems in acid soil are the low availability of P nutrients and high P fixation by Al and Fe, the higher the Al or Fe content in the soil, the lower the P content available

**Table 3.** Effect of P Fertilizer and Palm Bunch Ash Applications on Weight of Seeds per Plot of Mung Beans

Oil palm bunch ash (t/ha)	P fertilizer (kg SP-36/ha)				Mean
	P0 (0)	P1 (37.5)	P2 (75)	P3 (112.5)	
	.....g.....				
K0 (0)	71.59	61.59	62.40	74.82	67.60
K1 (2)	69.59	64.61	74.25	70.90	69.83
K2 (4)	91.40	60.40	80.47	104.24	84.13
Mean	77.52	62.20	72.37	83.32	

### 3.4. The Weight of 100 Seeds

The results showed that the treatment of P fertilizer, the application palm bunch ash, the interaction between the application of P fertilizer and palm bunch ash did not significant affect the weight of 100 seeds (Table 3). The treatment of P0K2 produced the higher than weight of 100-seed of mung beans (7.81 g). This is allegedly due to the high P content in the field and the low pH of the soil which causes the P element to be bound and difficult to be absorbed by plants so that it does not have a real effect. This is in accordance with Mitran et al [38] which stated that usually in acid soils, the dominant micro nutrients are higher than the macro nutrients. If acidic soil P is available, it will be bound and cannot be broken down freely, making it difficult for the plant to absorb.

**Table 4.** Effect of P fertilizer and Palm Bunch Ash Applications on the Weight of 100-Seed of Mung Beans

Oil palm bunch ash (t/ha)	P fertilizer (kg SP-36/ha)				Mean
	P0 (0)	P1 (37.5)	P2 (75)	P3 (112.5)	
K0 (0)	7,05	6.74	7.19	7,76	7.19
K1 (2)	6.91	6.91	6.88	6,67	6,84
K2 (4)	7.81	6.76	7.14	6,92	7.16
Mean	7.26	6,80	7.07	7,12	

#### 4. Conclusion and Recommendation

The applications of P fertilizer 112.5 kg SP-36/ha tended to produce the highest pod number and seed weight per plot. The applications of 2 t/ha of oil palm bunch ash significantly increased seed weight per plant, seed weight per plot and pod number.

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